

## Message Text

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11

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12

OMB-01 AID-20 RSR-01 /124 W  
----- 002802

R 080930 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7949

INFO AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

AMCONSUL LUANDA

AMCONSUL OPORTO

AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA

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EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: PGOV, PINT, PO

SUBJECT: PRIME MINISTER CAETANO DEFENDS REGIME  
IN ADDRESS TO ANP CONGRESS

SUMMARY: IN ADDRESSING CLOSING NATIONAL CONGRESS OF ANP POLITICAL MOVEMENT, PRIME MINISTER CAETANO GAVE ROUSING DEFENSE OF IDEOLOGY AND POLICIES OF HIS REGIME. PRIMIN WARNED AGAINST EXCESSES OF OPPOSITIONISTS AND SAID PORTUGAL HAD NO SANE ALTERNATIVE TO CURRENT SYSTEM. PRIMIN CREDITED HIS GOVERNMENT WITH PROGRESS ACROSS THE BOARD, PREDICTED CURRENT PROBLEMS WOULD BE OVERCOME, AND STATED THAT PORTUGAL HAD PROMISING FUTURE. END SUMMARY.

1. PRIMIN MARCELLO CAETANO GAVE STRONG, COLORFUL SPEECH TO CLOSING SESSION OF NATIONAL CONGRESS OF ACCAO NACIONAL POPULAR, GOVERNMENT- SPONSORED POLITICAL MOVEMENT. ABOUT 2,000 PARTY FAITHFUL, PLUS NUMEROUS MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES, JAMMED CONGRESS HALL AND INTERRUPTED PRIMIN FREQUENTLY WITH APPLAUSE. SPEECH WAS CARRIED BY RADIO  
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AND TV PRIME TIME MAY 6.

2. PRIMIN CONGRATULATED ANP CONGRESS ON AMOUNT AND QUALITY OF WORK ( SEE SEPTEL) BUT STATED CONGRESS' S 92 CONCLUSIONS SHOULD BE CONSIDERED GUIDELINES, RATHER THAN PROGRAMS, IN ORDER ENABLE GOVERNMENT MAINTAIN NECESSARY FLEXIBILITY; POLICY- MAKING REMAINS WITH GOP. PRIMIN NOTED PORTUGUESE ARE INHERENTLY UNCOMFORTABLE WITH ANY POLITICAL ORGANIZATION, TO DETRIMENT OF ANP; NEVERTHELESS PEOPLE REALIZE THAT " OUR POLICIES" ARE THE ONLY ONES APPROPRIATE. PRIMIN STRESSED OPENNESS OF ANP, WHICH WELCOMES ALL WHO WISH TO JOIN IN " THE COMMON LABOR." SAID CONGRESS HAS ENABLED MINISTERS TO CONSULT CLOSELY WITH PEOPLES' REPRESENTATIVES.

3. PRIMIN WARNED AGAINST " IDEOLOGUES OF REVOLUTION." HE CLAIMED UNIVERSITY UNREST UNRELATED TO ACADEMIC MATTERS BUT RATHER CAREFULLY PLANNED FOR POLITICAL EFFECT; WARNED THAT WHERE ACADEMIC AUTHORITIES PROVE UNABLE TO KEEP ORDER, " OTHER AUTHORITY WILL HAVE TO BE IMPOSED, AND THIS CANNOT BE THAT OF THE STUDENT SOVIETS."

4. CAETANO DEFENDED POLICY OF ASSISTANCE TO EMIGRANTS, REJECTING NOTION THAT EMIGRATION SHOULD BE PROHIBITED. HE PREDICTED THAT IF " DEMOCRATIC OPPOSITION" WERE TO TAKE OVER, ECONOMIC DECLINE AND SOCIAL DISORDER THAT WOULD ENSUE WOULD SPUR EMIGRATION AND LEAD TO CATASTOPHE.

5. PRIMIN LASHED OUT AT FAMILIAR THEMES OF PORNOGRAPHY, DRUGS, AND SABOTAGE, LINKING ALL TO " MANEUVERS OF SUBVERSION."

6. PRIMIN INSISTED THAT PORTUGUESE PEOPLE WANT " THE CHANGES THAT OUR SOCIETY MUST HAVE" TO TAKE PLACE PEACEFULLY AND WITHOUT DESTRUCTION OF VALUES, PRACTICES , ATTITUDES, AND CUSTOMS WHICH HAVE CIVILIZED WESTERN MAN. HE DEPLORED SELFISHNESS OF BUSINESS AND LABOR ORGANIZATIONS WHO PUT THEIR OWN INTERESTS BEFORE THE COMMON GOOD.

7. PRIMIN TICKED OFF LIST OF " FUNDAMENTAL LIBERTIES:"  
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RIGHT TO LIFE, TO REPUTATION, TO WORK, TO THE PROBUCT OF WORK, TO PROFESS A RELIGION, TO PRIVACY, TO HAVE AND RAISE CHILDREN, TO CHOOSE ONE' S PROFESSION, TO HOLD REPEAT TO HOLD OPINIONS, TO ACQUIRE AND DISPOSE OF GOODS.  
( FREEDOM OF SPEECH AND PRESS NOT MENTIONED.) CAETANO STATED " NO ONE IN THIS GOVERNMENT LIKES TO RESTRICT LIBERTIES, MUCH LESS SUFFOCATE THEM." NEVERTHELESS " EXAGGERATED

FREEDOM" MUST BE SACRIFICED TO INSURE COMMON INTERESTS.  
PRIMIN SAID HE HAD ALWAYS CONSIDERED HIMSELF LIBERAL BUT  
THAT HE WAS NOT NAIVE OR CONNIVING. IN THIS REGARD  
PRIMIN STATED PORTUGUESE COMMUNIST PARTY WAS PARTICIPATING  
IN ELECTION CAMPAIGN IN ORDER TO PREPARE FOR REVOLUTION;  
HE IMPLIED SUCH ACTIVITY WOULD BE CHECKED.

8. PRIMIN REPORTED GOVERNMENT MOVING AHEAD ON ALL  
FRONTS AND PROFESSED SURPRISE THAT SO MUCH PROGRESS  
HAD BEEN MADE IN FACE OF SUCH GREAT DIFFICULTIES. PRIMIN  
SAID CONGRESS INDICATED PORTUGAL WOULD " ONCE AGAIN"  
NAVIGATE THE CAPE OF STORMS AND THAT FUTURE OF  
PORTUGAL WAS OF " GOOD HOPE."

9. COMMENT: PRIME MINISTER AND OPPOSITONISTS HAVE JOINED  
ISSUE OM PUBLIC AFFAIRS; OPENING BELL OF 1973 NATIONAL  
ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS HAS RUNG.  
POST

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\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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**TAGS:** PGOV, PO, PINT  
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LOURENCO MARQUES  
LUANDA  
OPORTO  
PONTA DELGADA  
SECSTATE WASHDC  
**Type:** TE

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